**Government Officials' visit to Western. Countries**

1976. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

WUl the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many top Government Officials accept invitation from multi-national firms to visit western countries on one pretext or the other;

(b) if so, how many such Officials are on tour and to which places; and

(c) the details, from where such invitations have come ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRA- JR MURTHY) : (a) *So,* Sir. Instructions have been issued that officers should not accept any invitation ior participation in Symposia, Seminars, ;tc. abroad without prior cleaiance of tlie :ompeteiu authority. All officers are requir-id to follow these instructions.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to part (a) ibove, questions do not arise.

**Taking Clearance ior Visit Abroad**

1977. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to tate :

(a) whether Government have issued any ircular asking top Government Officials ot to visit wastern countries without tak-ag clearance from proper authority in his respect;

(b) whether any official had actually isited any foreign city in violation of the ule; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken for iolating the rule of conduct ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MNISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. IHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) Io, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply to part i) above, questions do not arise.

**Hearance to External Commercial Loans**

1978. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI S. AUSTIN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be leased to state:

(a) the total number of applications iceived by the Union Government seek-B clearance for external commercial 'aas during the last six months;

(b) ths number of such applications eared during the above period; and

(c) the total amount of commercial loans cleared during the current year till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) to (c) During the period June 1, 1994 to November 30, 1994, 267 applications were received by the Government of India for availing of external commercial loans of maturity greater than one year but excluding defence debt. Out of these, 144 have been given clearance under approved guidelines for external commercial borrowings. The total amount of external commercial loans cleared during this period aggregate to USD 2095.222 mio. equivalent. During the current financial year, April 1, 1994 till November 30, 1994. the total amount of external commercial loans approved aggregate to USD 2S56.613 mio. equivalent.

**India's Agreement *v/tth* other Countries to Avoid Double Taxation**

1979. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be p'eased to state the particulars of the countries with whom India has so far signed agreements to avoid double taxation and to prevent fiscal evasion with regard to the taxes on income indicating the effective dates of these agreements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE fSHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY) : The information regarding notified Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements is given in the Statement.

Statement

*India's Double Taxation avoidance Agreements*

| S. No. | Name of country | Effective from Assessment year |
|---|---|---|
| (1) | (2) | (3) |
| 1. | Australia | 1993-94 |
| 2. | Austria | 1963-64 |
| 3. | B ngl desh | 1993-94 |
| 4. | Belgium (Original) | 1975-76/ 1976-77 |
| 5. | Belgium (S. Protocol) | 1988-89/ 1989-90 |
| 6. | Brazil | 1994-95 |
| 7. | Canada | 1987-88 |
| 8. | Czechoslovakia | 1986-87 |
| 9. | Denmark | 1990-91 / 1991-92 |
| 10. | Finland | 1985-86 |
| 11. | France (Original) | 1970-71/ 1971-72 |